VENOM WAR

MARVEL

4

SPIDER-MAN

KELLY
LANZING
LAND
LEISTEN
D'ARMATA

LAND fgd

RATED T+

"John's art made the most fantastical situations feel grounded and real. His work had a uniquely cinematic quality to it, and we strive to bring to the screen what he masterfully accomplished on the page: characters that, even as they're pulled into extraordinary situations, still seem human and believable. He was a wonderful artist and storyteller, collaborator and friend to so many of our people here at Marvel."

– Kevin Feige
PRESIDENT, MARVEL STUDIOS

"John is one of the defining creative voices of his generation, whose work will be celebrated for years to come. His artistic and design skills were unparalleled, and he moved into otherworldly when you took in his ability to tell a story visually. With all that being said, he was simply a great guy who enjoyed a great meal and a quiet conversation. I will miss John dearly, and I consider myself lucky to have been his friend."

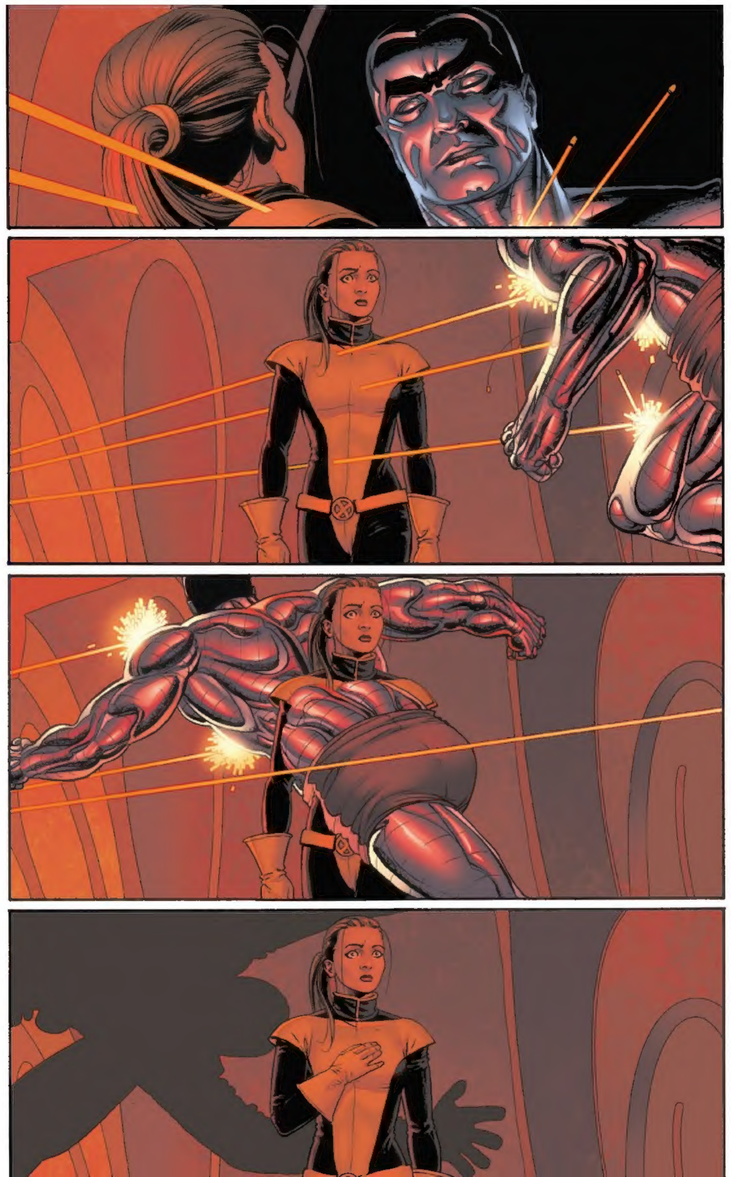
– Dan Buckley
PRESIDENT, MARVEL COMICS & FRANCHISE

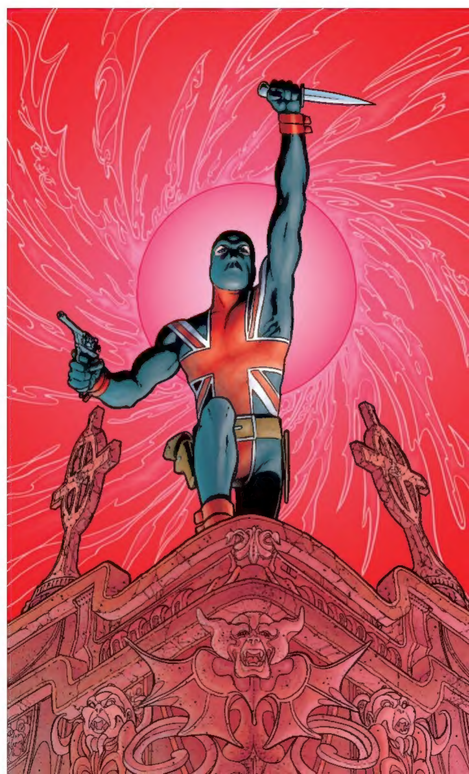
"John approached his art in the same way he did everything in life: fearlessly. It's what made him so good at what he did. From the soft touch needed on certain lines, to the bold bravado of the shots he often chose, John made every page better by putting 100% of himself into every composition and character. His comics truly embody his spirit, and while he's left us far too early, his legacy will live forever in these stories that he loved telling."

– C.B. Cebulski
EDITOR IN CHIEF, MARVEL COMICS

JOHN CASSADAY

PENCILER · INKER · ARTIST · FRIEND





WHEN I FIRST MET YOU...IT WAS INCREDIBLE.

AN ABSOLUTELY ELECTRIC FEELING, SCARY BUT ALSO EXCITING AND, MAN, A LITTLE...I DUNNO... *SEXY?*

CHANGED MY WHOLE WORLD IN AN INSTANT.

BUT NOW YOU'RE *GONE.* PROBABLY FOR GOOD.

THE TRUTH IS... WE JUST WANT DIFFERENT THINGS IN LIFE.

YOU WANT TO FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE OF ALL TIME AND SPACE...

...AND I WANT TO SAVE *HER.*

...OF COURSE, I'M STILL TALKING TO YOU LIKE YOU'RE IN MY BRAIN.

"URRGLE, BRAINS, WE ARE VENOM, WE WANT TO EATS THEM."

...NOPE, NOT THE SAME.

HEY, I HAD TO TRY, RIGHT?

VENOM WAR

SPIDER-MAN #4

EDDIE BROCK and his son, **DYLAN**, are at war for control of the **VENOM SYMBIOTE!** The symbiote, believing all host bonds ill-fated, slunk off to die alone in the last place anyone would ever think to look--the **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**'s closet. But Peter Parker, the symbiote's first host, convinced the symbiote to bond with him once more after realizing their shared responsibility is helping to end the conflict.

Spidey and Mary Jane, A.K.A. **JACKPOT**, fought **ARACHNIOTE**, an ancient megaklyntar feared even by symbiotes. After MJ subdued the monster, Spidey and Venom raced off to join the main event between the Brocks, ultimately choosing to give up his bond with Venom to the father and son.

But Peter might just come to regret that choice, as Arachniote reconstituted itself and consumed Jackpot, siphoning off power from her gauntlet to supercharge itself. Now it's up to Spider-Man and Spider-Man alone to save her.

PETER PARKER, A.K.A. **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**

MARY JANE WATSON, A.K.A. **JACKPOT**

ARACHNIOTE

COLLIN KELLY & JACKSON LANZING
WRITERS

GREG LAND
PENCILER

JAY LEISTEN
INKER

FRANK D'ARMATA
COLOR ARTIST

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

GREG LAND & FRANK D'ARMATA
COVER ARTISTS

RAF GRASSETTI
VARIANT COVER ARTIST

SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY **STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO**

STACIE ZUCKER DESIGNER
MR DANIEL & KAEDEN McGAHEY ASSISTANT EDITORS
TOM GRONEMAN ASSOCIATE EDITOR
JORDAN D. WHITE EDITOR
C.B. CEBULSKI EDITOR IN CHIEF

© 2024 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

THING IS, VENOM. THAT *THING-- THE ARACHNIOTE--* IT'S EATEN MARY JANE...

...AND EVEN A SUPERMODEL CAN'T MAKE THAT GOO *COUTURE.*

UGH, WHAT AM I DOING HERE?! THAT'S SOME *GRADE-A QUIPPING* AND I'M WASTING IT ON AN AUDIENCE OF ME!

OKAY, LAST ONE. PROMISE.

THEN I'LL GET TO THE POINT.

HEY, BIG GUY!

HOW ABOUT YOU FOCUS ON LITTLE *SPIDER-MAN* AND STOP MESSING UP MY *FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD*?!

SQUELCH!

YOU. THE TWICE BONDED. THE CAST-OFF. REJECTED. TOO WORTHLESS TO EVEN JOIN OUR COLLECTIVE.

MY GUY, I DATED *BLACK CAT*--DO YOU THINK *NEGGING ME* IS GOING TO GET UNDER MY SKIN?

ANYWAY, I'M NOT TALKING TO *YOU*. I'M TALKING TO *HER*.

JACKPOT! I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!

AND I REALLY HOPE YOU CAN HEAR ME, 'CUS OTHERWISE, I'M ABOUT TO DO A LOT OF REALLY INSANE THINGS FOR NO GOOD REASON.

I KNOW YOU'RE TRYING TO BREAK FREE, 'CUS THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WOULD DO. BUT IT'S NOT AS EASY AS SAYING "NO, THANK YOU, I'D RATHER NOT BE AN INTERGALACTIC HIVE MIND BENT ON THE DOMINATION OF ALL THINGS INTO MY INFINITE VOID."

KAIJ-GOO'S GONNA BE SNACKING ON THE INFINITE POWER IN THAT GAUNTLET UNTIL HE'S BIG ENOUGH TO EAT THE PLANET. ONLY THING THAT'S GONNA STOP HIM IS GETTING YOU THE HECK OUTTA THERE IN PERSON.

SO, AS TENDS TO BE THE CASE WITH SYMBIOTES...

...WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO SOMETHING REALLY DUMB.

...PETER?

VENNY? I CAN BARELY HEAR YOU.

...I AM SPREAD... VERY THIN.

BUT I CAN SENSE YOUR SACRIFICE. THROUGH TIME ITSELF. AND, PETER, I WANT YOU TO KNOW...

AWWW. YOU'RE PROUD OF ME?

NO.

I WANT YOU TO #!%& THIS GUY UP.

CHOMP!

MJ!

MJ!!!

PETER

I'M COMING FOR YOU, JUST HOLD ON!

I DON'T

I CAN'T...

JUST FOCUS ON MY VOICE!

THIS PLACE ISN'T REAL--IT'S IN OUR ***MINDS.*** IT WILL ***RESPOND*** TO YOU, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T ***WANT*** TO--***SO FOCUS ON ME!***

PETER! I'M HERE!

BUT YOU HAVE TO GET OUT! IT WANTS ***EVERYTHING!***

I KNOW, MJ.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M COUNTING ON.

THERE.

OUR OWN PRIVATE IDAHO.

BUT WE DON'T HAVE LONG.

PETER... YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS.

YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT. WE'RE BOTH TRAPPED HERE NOW.

I'M SO AFRAID, PETER. I CAN FEEL IT... GNAWING AT MY BONES... PULLING EVERY THREAD OF POWER FROM THE *GAUNTLET*...

I THOUGHT I HAD IT UNDER CONTROL, BUT...

POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY. EVERY DANG TIME.

EVERYONE THINKS ***RESPONSIBILITY'S*** THE TOUGH ONE. PROTECTING THE PEOPLE YOU...YOU LOVE. ISOLATING YOURSELF, EVEN IF IT MEANS LOSING... EVERYTHING THAT EVER MATTERED.

BUT PEOPLE LIKE US...WE CAN'T HELP IT. LOVING IS EASY. LIFE WAS HARD, BUT WE ***NEVER WERE.***

BUT ***POWER***... THAT'S THE SLIPPERY SLOPE.

YOU AND ME, WE DIDN'T GROW UP WITH IT. THE RUSH OF BEING ABLE TO HAVE WHATEVER YOU WANT. TO SAVE THE CITY. SAVE THE FUTURE.

SAVE THE GIRL.

IT EATS AWAY AT YOU, POWER. KILLS YOU FROM THE INSIDE. LIKE...*HAH*, WELL...

LIKE *VENOM.*

I'VE SEEN YOU DO IT FOR YEARS.

PUT IT ALL ON YOURSELF.

LIFT THE WHOLE FREAKING CITY ON YOUR BACK.

TAKE ALL THE POISON SO NO ONE ELSE HAS TO SUFFER.

BUT POWER DOESN'T HAVE TO MEAN STANDING ALONE.

IT NEVER HAS.

NOT IF YOU ASK TO SHARE IT WITH THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE YOU.

HERE, PETER.

LET ME SHOW YOU.

THWIP

THANKS FOR THE CATCH, SPIDER-MAN.

YEAH, DON'T MENTION IT. IT'S JUST...

...PART OF THE JOB...

ANYWAY, IT WASN'T ME THAT SAVED THE DAY. IT WAS YOU. PRETTY INCREDIBLE WORK, MJ.

HEY, ABOUT WHAT I SAID IN THERE...

MARY JANE! PETER! CAN YOU HEAR ME?

HELLO?

I'M GETTING READINGS FROM THE GAUNTLET AGAIN.

PLEASE TELL ME I'M NOT BROADCASTING TO A GHOST.

PLEASE.

PAUL. HEY. IT'S OKAY.

I'M HERE.

OH MY GOD, MJ...

...I THOUGHT I'D LOST YOU.

IT'S OKAY. I TOLD YOU.

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER.

AND I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

RIGHT. OKAY.

THWIP

WOW, HOW BOUT THEM *DISTANT SIRENS?* THEY'RE PLAYING MY SONG.

HECKUVA *TEAM-UP*, JACKPOT. GREAT WORK IN THE CHAIR, PAUL.

YOU'RE NOT STAYING TO TAKE RODERICK IN? TAKING DOWN THE HOBGOBLIN'S A BIG DEAL!

BEEN AROUND THAT BLOCK PLENTY. ANYWAY, YOU TWO DESERVE THIS ONE. BIG WIN TONIGHT. LIKE YOU SAID, MJ...

...SHARE IT WITH THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE.

I TRY TO MEAN IT. I REALLY DO.

AND I LISTEN FOR YOU IN THE STRETCHED-OUT CORNERS OF THE MIND WE ONCE SHARED.

BUT YOU'RE GONE.

JUST LIKE ALL THE OTHER SYMBIOTES. PUT TO BED BY DYLAN AND EDDIE IN WAYS I'M SURE I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND.

AFTER ALL, THAT WHOLE FAMILY IS KINGS IN BLACK ALL THE WAY DOWN.

BUT ME?

I'M THE LUCKY ONE.

I'M THE GUY WHO GETS TO WALK HOME ALONE AT NIGHT.

I GET TO KNOW I MADE THE RIGHT CALL. THAT I DIDN'T LOSE MYSELF IN THE SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM.

THAT I COULD HAVE TAKEN ALL THAT POWER FOR MYSELF, BUT I CHOSE THE LIGHT.

THAT I'M NOT PULLING HER INTO MY WAR EVERY DAY.

I GET TO KNOW THAT OF *ALL* THE *DAMAGED GUYS* YOU SAW A *FRIEND* IN, VENOM...

...I'M THE RESPONSIBLE ONE.

THE END.

VENOM WAR

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE!

VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE #3

VENOM #39

CHECKLIST

~~08/07/24 VENOM WAR 1~~

~~08/14/24 VENOM 36~~

~~08/14/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 1~~

~~08/21/24 VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 1~~

~~08/21/24 VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS 1~~

~~08/28/24 VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 1~~

~~09/04/24 VENOM WAR 2~~

~~09/04/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 2~~

~~09/11/24 VENOM 37~~

~~09/11/24 VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 1~~

~~09/11/24 VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 2~~

~~09/18/24 VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 1~~

~~09/18/24 VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS 2~~

~~09/18/24 VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 1~~

~~09/25/24 VENOM WAR: DAREDEVIL 1~~

~~09/25/24 VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 2~~

~~10/02/24 VENOM WAR 3~~

~~10/02/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 3~~

~~10/09/24 VENOM 38~~

~~10/09/24 VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 2~~

~~10/16/24 VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 2~~

~~10/16/24 VENOM WAR: VENOMOUS 3~~

~~10/23/24 VENOM WAR: CARNAGE 3~~

~~10/23/24 VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 2~~

~~10/30/24 VENOM WAR: ZOMBIOTES 3~~

~~10/30/24 VENOM WAR: FANTASTIC FOUR 1~~

~~11/06/24 VENOM WAR 4~~

11/06/24 VENOM WAR: SPIDER-MAN 4

11/13/24 VENOM 39

11/13/24 VENOM WAR: WOLVERINE 3

11/13/24 VENOM WAR: DEADPOOL 3

11/20/24 VENOM WAR: LETHAL PROTECTORS 3

11/20/24 VENOM WAR: IT'S JEFF 1

11/27/24 VENOM WAR 5

NEXT

THE WICKED WEB-SLINGERS WANT YOUR ***BRAINS***--
I MEAN, YOUR ***LETTERS!*** SEND YOUR NOTES TO
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM. BE SURE
TO MARK THEM "OKAY TO PRINT"!

VENOM WAR #5